

ABSTRACT

PROCESS FOR THE ELECTROCHEMICAL OXIDATION
OF FERROCYANIDE TO FERRICYANIDE5

The present invention concerns a process for oxidizing an aqueous phase comprising ferrocyanide (V) which is recovered from an oxidative phenolic coupling reaction, to an aqueous phase comprising ferricyanide (IV), in a divided electrochemical cell,

10 comprising preparing an anolyte comprising pretreating the aqueous phase comprising ferrocyanide (V) which is recovered from an oxidative phenolic coupling reaction by decantation or extraction or filtration; placing the anolyte in contact with an anodic electrode of the divided electrochemical cell; placing a catholyte in contact with a cathodic electrode of the divided electrochemical cell; and applying electrical power to

15 the divided electrochemical cell, wherein the electrical power has an amperage or voltage and wherein the applying is for a time period sufficient to oxidize the ferrocyanide (V) to ferricyanide (IV).